

**SYSTEM AND METHOD OF AUTOMATICALLY HANDLING
INTERNET KEY EXCHANGE TRAFFIC IN A VIRTUAL PRIVATE
NETWORK**

Abstract of the Invention

5 A system and method for automatically handling Internet Key Exchange
(IKE) traffic in a Virtual Private Network (VPN) is provided. Specifically, under
the present invention, a VPN gateway node is first searched for IKE traffic permit
filters. If none are found, IKE traffic is permitted to flow in and out of the VPN
gateway node. The present invention also provides IKE traffic management so
10 that outbound IKE traffic can be guided and secured in a proper fashion.